

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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DRAFTED BY ARA/RPP:GBROWN

APPROVED BY S/NM:S9VANCE

ARA/AND:CFULLER (DRAFT)

AMB. DEAN (DRAFT)

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ARA/LA:WLUERS (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

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FOR CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PE

SUBJECT: INDICATION OF GOP INTEREST IN MAJOR EFFORT TO
CONTROL COCA CULTIVATION

1. DURING VISIT TO WASHINGTON LAST WEEK, ATTORNEY GENERAL
NELSON DIAZ-POMAR TOLD US THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU NOW WISHED
TO ENTER INTO A COMPREHENSIVE COCA CONTROL PROGRAM WITH OUR
ASSISTANCE (WHICH HE ESTIMATED AT DOLS. 50 MILLION OVER
THREE TO FIVE YEARS). THIS DESIRE, HE INDICATED, WAS A
REVERSAL OF POLICY OF THE GOP UNDER PRESIDENT VELASCO AND
THROUGH THE TENURE OF PRIME MINISTER F"RNANDEZ MALDONADO.
DIAZ-POMAR STRESSED THAT HE WAS SPEAKING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS
AND WITH THE APPROVAL AND PERSONAL INTEREST OF PRESIDENT
MORALES BERMUDEZ AND PRIME MINISTER ARBULU. HE ADDED THAT
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JUST BEFORE HE LEFT LIMA, THE CHIEF OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S

OFFICE HAD CONTACTED HIM TO underscore the interest of the higher levels of the GOP in the program and the importance attached to his visit here, accompanied by President of Supreme Court, Ricardo Nugent.

2. AMBASSADOR VANCE WELCOMED THE INITIATIVE. HE POINTED OUT THE MANY COMPLICATIONS IN DESIGNING AND CARRYING OUT SUCH A PROGRAM AND THE NEED TO PROCEED CAREFULLY IN STAGES BEGINNING WITH A STUDY AND PILOT PROJECT. FARMERS EVEN WHEN

OFFERED ALTERNATIVE INCOME SOURCES WOULD NEED THE THREAT OF PUNISHMENT FOR BREACH OF LICENSING LAWS IN ORDER TO FOREGO PROFIT FROM ILLICIT COCA. ALSO, EFFORTS SHOULD BE STEPPED UP AGAINST TRAFFICKERS. DIAZ-POMAR SAID HIS GOVERNMENT FULLY UNDERSTOOD THESE ASPECTS OF MATTER. AMBASSADOR VANCE SAID INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL FUNDS CONTROLLED BY HIS OFFICE MIGHT BE USED TO FINANCE THE EFFORT THROUGH THE INITIAL STAGES BUT WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO IMPLEMENT A FULL-SCALE PROGRAM. WE TOLD THE PERUVIANS WE WERE NOW BEGINNING TALKS WITH THE BOLIVIANS LOOKING TOWARDS A SIMILAR APPROACH ON COCA CONTROL. FYI. WE HAVE PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL FOR A PROGRAM FOR BOLIVIA OF UP TO DOLS. 45 MILLION IN AID LOAN FUNDS OVER FIVE YEARS FOR COCA CONTROL AND UP TO DOLS. 8 MILLION OVER FIVE YEARS OF STATE DEPARTMENT NARCOTICS FUNDS FOR ENFORCEMENT AGAINST TRAFFICKING PROVIDED EFFECTIVENESS APPEARS FEASIBLE AS THE PROGRAM DEVELOPS.

3. WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY DIAZ-POMAR'S REMARKS THAT THE GOP MAY NOW BE WILLING TO UNDERTAKE A COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO CONTROL COCA PRODUCTION. WE WOULD LIKE TO DETERMINE WHETHER DIAZ-POMAR IS, IN FACT, ACCURATELY REFLECTING POLICY OF HIGHEST LEVELS OF HIS GOVERNMENT. HE STRESSED THAT OUR FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATIONS IN LIMA SHOULD NOT BE THROUGH THE FOREIGN MINISTER BUT BE DIRECTLY WITH THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER. HE MENTIONED, TOO, THAT THE SON OF PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ, COL. REMIGIO MORALES BERMUDEZ, WOULD ALSO BE INVOLVED. WE WOULD LIKE FOR YOU TO MAKE APPROPRIATE CONTACTS TO DETERMINE SERIOUSNESS OF GOP INTEREST. SUGGEST YOU CONFER FIRST WITH DIAZ-POMAR, WHO WAS DUE TO RETURN TO LIMA AUGUST 23, TO ALLOW HIM OPPORTUNITY TO

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REPORT RESULTS OF HIS TALKS HERE AND CLARIFY APPROPRIATE CHANNELS FOR PURSUING THE INITIATIVE. AMBASSADOR DEAN ALSO SUGGESTS CONTACT WITH GEN. PERRO RICHTAR PRADA, ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF, WHO WHEN INTERIOR MINISTER APPEARED TO SUPPORT STRONG COMPREHENSIVE EFFORT ON COCA CONTROL.

4. YOU MAY CONFIRM OUR INTEREST IN MOVING AHEAD TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR COCA CROP CONTROL AND INCOME SUBSTITUTION. IN

YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH GOP OFFICIALS YOU SHOULD SEEK TO DETERMINE TO THE FULLEST, THE EXTENT AND DIRECTION OF ANY PLANNING THEY MAY HAVE DONE. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST WOULD BE WHO IS LIKELY TO BE IN CHARGE OF ANY MAJOR PROGRAM AND WHAT ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTH IS THERE TO IMPLEMENT IT. ALSO, WHAT IS STATUS OF PAPER DIAZ-POMAR MENTIONED WHICH APPEARS TO BE COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING DOCUMENT BEING CLEARED AROUND GOP?

5. IF RESULTS OF YOUR CONVERSATIONS ARE ENCOURAGING, MR. MAW MAY WISH TO CARRY THEM FURTHER IN DISCUSSIONS WITH

PRESIDENT OR PRIME MINISTER NEXT WEEK. AMBASSADOR DEAN MAY GO TO LIMA FROM BRAZIL TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE DISCUSSIONS. IF AS A RESULT THESE DISCUSSIONS GOP APPEARS PREPARED MAKE SERIOUS EFFORT, DEPARTMENT IS PREPARED TO SEND A SMALL TEAM OF EXPERTS TO DEVELOP JOINTLY WITH THE GOP A PLAN OF ACTION. KISSINGER

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